Please replace paragraph beginning at line 17 on page 2 with the following amended

paragraph:

It is to be appreciated that in many cases the space adjacent the floor of the

vehicle within the foot-well of the vehicle, that is to say the space beneath the carpet and

immediately above the floor pan, may become damp. If a conventional air-bag material

is <u>utilized</u> utilised in such an environment, there is a risk that the fabric may become

mildewed and perish.

Please replace paragraph beginning at line 3 on page 3 with the following amended

paragraph:

If a conventional air-bag is utilized utilised at a position between the floor pan and

the carpet of a motor vehicle, if the feet of the occupant are pressed firmly downwardly at

the moment that the air-bag is inflated, initially the parts of the air-bag which are not

subjected to the downward pressure from the feet will be inflated, and only as a final

stage in the inflation of the air-bag will the part of the air-bag located immediately

beneath the feet of the occupant be inflated so that the feet are actually lifted up above the

floor pan. This is undesirable, since ideally the feet of the occupant should be lifted

above the floor pan just as soon as possible when an impact of the vehicle is detected.

Please replace paragraph beginning at line 8 on page 4 with the following amended

paragraph:

It is to be appreciated that a sealed damp-proof housing will minimize minimise

the risk of a fabric air-bag deteriorating even if the air-bag is in a potentially damp

environment.

Please replace paragraph beginning at line 6 on page 5 with the following amended

paragraph:

Conveniently electrical connection means are provided to enable means mans

supplying a signal adapted to initiate inflation of the air-bag to be connected to the gas

generator. Preferably the unit has a substantially rigid base.

Please replace the two paragraphs spanning lines 5-8 on page 6 with the following

rewritten paragraphs:

Figure 7 is a sectional view, corresponding to Figure 5, illustrating a further

alternative embodiment of the invention, and

Figure 8 is a plan view illustrating yet another embodiment of the invention, [.]

Figure 9 is a top plan view, with parts shown in phantom, of an airbag unit in

accordance with the invention, while the gas generator 14' is provided within the housing.

Please replace paragraph beginning at page 7, line 13 with the following rewritten

paragraph:

The air-bag 11 42 is formed of fabrics, such as a conventional air-bag fabric, and

is constituted by two [super-imposed] superimposed layers of fabric secured together by

seams, such as the seam 15. The seams serve to divide the interior of the air-bag into a

plurality of parallel cells 16, each of which communicate, by means of a gas supply

opening 17 with a transversely extending gas distribution duct 18. The cells, in the

uninflated state, are of a substantially uniform width.

Please replace paragraph beginning at line 12 on page 8 with the following amended

paragraph:

It is to be appreciated, therefore, that in use of the described embodiment of the

invention, a conventional air-bag fabric may be utilized utilised for the air-bag 11

because the air-bag fabric does not come into contact with the floor pan of the vehicle,

either before or during inflation, and consequently there is no risk that the air-bag will

become damaged due to contact with the abrasive floor pan of the vehicle. Indeed the

air-bag is contained within a sealed protective housing until the moment of inflation, and

even following inflation, the air-bag only contacts material that initially formed the

housing.

Please replace paragraph beginning at line 4 on page 11 with the following amended

paragraph:

Whilst, in the described embodiments of the invention, the gas generator is

located on the exterior of the housing 2 of the unit 1, in a modified embodiment of the

invention as illustrated in Figure 9, the gas generator may be provided within the housing.

In such an embodiment it is only necessary to provide an electrical connection, accessible

Appl. No. 10/018, 254 Amdt. Dated February 26, 2004 Reply to Office Action of August 26, 2003

from the exterior of the housing, which is connected to the gas generator to enable means

to provide an electric signal to initiate inflation of the air-bag to be connected to the gas

generator.